

C1MCINTOSH, T OGI/GD/ALA 2 G 09 x 6556 COVEMEX

PAGE 0021

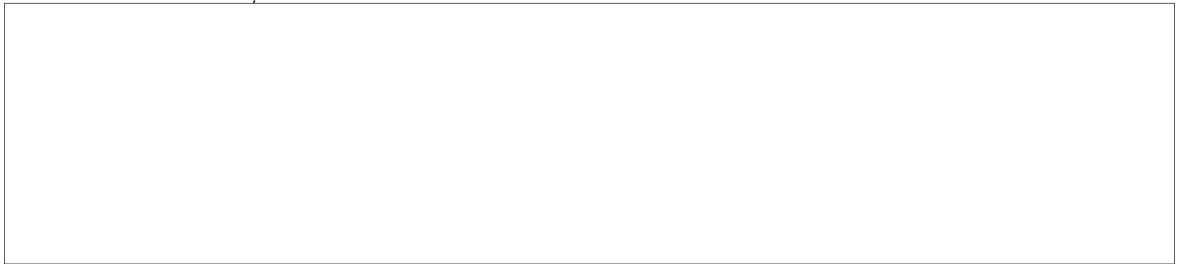
MSGNO 34 (STXX) \*13/04/83\* \*20:07\*  
 ZCZC 01:03:59Z (ST)

UNCLASSIFIED

STATE

STAT

CO-VE BORDER



83 0960989 SUR

NC 0960989

TOR: 132344Z APR 83

RR RUEAIIB  
 ZNR UUUUU ZOC STATE ZZH  
 STU1005  
 RR RUEHC  
 DE RUEHCV #3136 1032043  
 ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
 R 132042Z APR 83  
 FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
 TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 5148  
 INFO RUESBG/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA 6564  
 RUEOEHA/USCINCSO QUARRY HTS PN//  
 BT

EZ1:

&lt;&gt; UNCLAS &lt;&gt;&lt;&gt;CARACAS&lt;&gt;&lt;&gt; 03136

EZ2:

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: PREL, PINR, PGOV, CO, VE

SUBJ: COLOMBIAN-VENEZUELAN RELATIONS: COOPERATION TO STOP  
 - KIDNAPPING AND CATTLE RUSTLING IN BORDER AREA

REF: (A) FBIS CHIVA CHIVA PN 4614 0990223 APR 83

- (B) BOGOTA 3896, (C) FBIS CHIVA CHIVA PA4841 1302172  
 - APR 83

1. VENEZUELAN MEDIA HAVE NOT REPORTED ALLEGED CLASHES  
 BETWEEN VENEZUELAN AND COLOMBIAN MILITARY MENTIONED IN  
 REFTELS.

2. LOCAL PRESS DID REPORT ON APRIL 6, HOWEVER, THAT  
 REPRESENTATIVES FROM VENEZUELA AND COLOMBIA WERE TO  
 MEET APRIL 7 AT GUASDUALITO, APURE STATE, TO DISCUSS JOINT  
 PLAN TO DEAL WITH WAVE OF KIDNAPPING AND CATTLE RUSTLING  
 ALONG JOINT BORDER IN RECENT MONTHS. VENEZUELAN  
 REPRESENTATIVES WERE TO HAVE BEEN MINISTER OF JUSTICE  
 REINALDO CHALBAUD ZERPA; POLICE COMMISSARY PEDRO MIGUEL  
 GUSTAVO CARVALLO, AND MIGUEL MADRID PARODI; DISIP DIRECTOR  
 ARPAD BANGO STAGEL; DISIP NATIONAL CHIEF CAMILO CUSATI;

UNCLAS

C1MCINTOSH, T OGI/GD/ALA 2 G 09 x 6556 COVEMEX

PAGE 0022

AND THE MILITARY COMMANDERS OF ZULIA, TACHIRA, APURE, AND BARINAS STATES. COLOMBIA SIDE WAS TO BE COMPOSED OF THE DIRECTORS OF THE DAS, F2 AND ARMED FORCES' INTELLIGENCE AS WELL AS BY THE COMMANDER OF THE ARMY'S FIFTH BRIGADE, AND THE COLOMBIAN MINISTER OF JUSTICE. WE HAVE NOT SEEN ANY SUBSEQUENT LOCAL PRESS STORIES REPORTING ON SAID MEETING, BUT FBIS CHIVA CHIVA PA 130317 INDICATES THESE TALKS DID TAKE PLACE.

3. THE ABOVE INDICATES HOW SERIOUSLY THE VENEZUELAN'S NOW VIEW THE GENERAL STATE OF LAWLESSNESS THAT EXISTS ALONG THE SOUTHWESTERN BORDER WITH COLOMBIA. THE WELL-TO-DO IN APURE AND TACHIRA STATES HAVE BECOME PARTICULARLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE CONSTANT THREAT OF KIDNAPPING, AND ARE DEMANDING THE GOVERNMENT TAKE ACTION. A SPECIAL CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED, AND THE PROBLEMS ARE RECEIVING HIGH-LEVEL ATTENTION IN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH AS WELL. THE GOV IS ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF COLOMBIAN GUERRILLAS EXTENDING THEIR ACTIVITIES INTO VENEZUELAN TERRITORY. EVIDENTLY THESE CONCERNS ARE ALSO SHARED BY THE COLOMBIANS AND BOTH GOVERNMENTS ARE TRYING TO WORK TOGETHER TO BRING SOME ORDER TO WHAT IS OBVIOUSLY A SERIOUS SITUATION. BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN VENEZUELA AND COLOMBIA HAVE NOT BEEN DAMAGED BY THESE PROBLEMS, AND IN FACT A GREATER DEGREE OF UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION SEEMS TO BE DEVELOPING AS A RESULT. LANDAU

NNNN

NNDD

UNCLAS